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Newsletter Number 03 22 February 2013



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Thanks

- .. to those parents who assisted with this week's headlice inspection.
- .. to those helping out with swimming time trials next week
- .. to those parents who have started up as regular helpers in classrooms

People of the week

- .. Former students Luke Baker, Steven Nink, Mikaela Bayly and Briar Whimp .. Kamo High School head boys and prefects respectively.
 - .. Former student Campbell Clarke who has been appointed Head Boy at Excellere College. Well done Campbell.
 - .. Natasha competed in the Auckland Jnr Athletic Champs and got 2nd in 200m. Awesome effort.
 - .. Jemimah and Sarah who took such great care of a 5 year old this week who was catching the school bus for the first time.
- Please keep us informed of the achievements of present and past pupils so that we can celebrate these together.

Good luck

- .. to our representatives in next week's tennis doubles tournament

Mobile Ear Clinic

- .. will be outside the Bush Road Medical Centre 8:30-3:30 Wednesday 27 February. No appointments necessary. Pre-schoolers welcome.

Sunhats

A reminder that school broad brimmed sunhats are compulsory in terms 1 and 4. There are still a few children coming to school without these and so please check their schoolbags each day. We also recommend sun safe T-shirts .. and sunblock at your discretion.

From last week .. in brief .. please ..

- .. sun hats are compulsory ... please check each morning that your child has their sunhat in their bag.
- .. advise the office by 9:00 AM of any absences for that day.
- .. children arriving after 9:00 AM to report to the office on arrival.
- .. try to get children to school at least 15 minutes before bell.
- .. advise the office by 2:45 PM of any change in pick up arrangements or if your child will not be travelling on their usual bus.
- .. stationery is available from the school office throughout the year.
- .. keen to talk to anyone willing to help out with the school garden.
- .. check at home for school books from last year and return these to school next week.

Help Wanted

If anyone is coming via Kamo on Friday mornings and could pick up the pies for the school lunches, it would be most appreciated. Unfortunately, if the pies cannot be delivered to school, this fundraising opportunity may have to cease.

Zone Swimming Sports - Kokopu School - 4.3 (pp 7.3)

If your child received a consent form for this event (years 4 - 8) please return this to school on **Monday** so we can enter them in their respective races. This is an optional event. Children will travel by bus departing shortly after 9:00 AM returning to school by 3:00 PM. Please ensure children bring their togs, sunhats, plenty to drink, lunch, something warm to wear between races and sunblock and spending money at your discretion.

Term Events

Please pencil the following dates into your calendar. We will advise of further dates as these come to hand.

25 Feb	Swimming heats (preparatory to school and zone events)
25/26 Feb	Parent/teacher/student conferences
27 Feb	Tennis Doubles Tournament (pp 29.2)
4 March	Zone Swimming Sports at Kokopu School
6 March	School Swimming Sports
11 March	Year 7 and 8 camp to Auckland
12 March	Interschool Swimming Sports
26 March	Year 4 to 6 Summer Sports Tournament
29 March	Good Friday
1/2 April	Easter Monday and Tuesday
19 April	Final day term 1

Senior Camp to Auckland

A small number of children have not returned their camp consents. Please get these to school as soon as possible. Any questions in the run up to camp to Mrs Donaldson please.

PMP -

Sessions run each Tuesday and Wednesday from 1.30-3.00pm. If you are able to help at these sessions please contact Rachael Robertson.

Tennis Doubles Tournament - (Thomas Neale 27.2 - pp 6.3)

Where consents were returned children have been entered in this event. Please note parents are responsible for transport and supervision for their own child (or for arranging this with another attending parent). Any questions please to Mrs Sinclair.

School Contributions / Trips and Events Fee / Spelling Books

Please forward payment for the above to school at your earliest convenience.

If feeling financially stretched at the moment parents are welcome to contact Kevin to discuss alternative payment arrangements. You will find us accommodating and discreet.

Bike helmets

Please ensure children wear their bike helmets at all times when using their bikes (and ESPECIALLY if cycling to school).

Disabled Parking Areas

.. please ensure the disabled parking areas are used only for this purpose.

Triadic Conferences (parent / teacher / student interviews) - 25 and 26 Feb

If you did not receive a form, or have not yet advised the office of your preferred appointment time, please give Helen a call first thing on Monday morning. If these days, and available times, do not suit please note that teachers are available at other times by appointment.

Interviews - Room 12

Parents of children in room 12 are advised that Mr Delemare will not be present at room 12 interviews. Mrs Gunson will lead these interviews and will feed the necessary information to Mr Delemare on his return. Mr Delemare would be more than happy to meet with parents on his return.

Learner Journey Sheets

.. were sent home today. These enable you and your child to be part of setting key learning goals .. and to teach them the importance of goal setting. Please pencil any amendments onto the sheets and **bring these with you to conferences.**

Early Buses – a reminder that buses will run 30 minutes early on 25 and 26 Feb because of parent interviews. Parents who transport their children by car are asked to pick them up at 2.30 PM please on these days.

Ka Hikitia – the Maori Education Strategy

If interested in knowing more about the above strategy paper and its implications for schools please contact Kevin. We are happy to send you a hard (or electronic) summary. Our board is currently assessing the implications of this strategy for our school.

Lost Property

Please note that unclaimed items of clothing will be on display in the school hall during parent interviews. Please drop by and have a look when passing.

Swimming Time Trials

Thank you again to the team of parents assisting with time trials. We are keen to get under way shortly after 9:00 AM and hopefully will be pretty well wrapped up by mid-day.

Homework

If you do NOT want your child to receive homework please advise their teacher as soon as possible. If you are on board please set a regular time and place and advise us if we can help with any "speed wobbles" along the way. Let's start as we mean to continue by getting routines well established.

(Although the research is a little inconclusive we believe that regular homework routines lead to better performance and a better preparation for secondary school for most children).

After School Labs

We need some information from parents at this early stage ..

1. A number of parents were not able to secure a place for their child in **science labs** last year and were told they would be prioritised this year. **If this relates to you**, and you are still keen for your child to be placed, (check days above) **please advise Kevin next week.**
2. If your child was placed in the maths labs last year they will be prioritised for placement in the initial labs for 2013 just to make sure gains have been sustained and to get them off to the best possible start in 2013. If you **DO NOT** want your child in these labs and **THEY WERE** in these labs last year, please advise Kevin next week so we can make their place available to another child.
3. If your child has been recommended for the Grammar or maths labs you will hear from us within the next few weeks when the number of available spaces is confirmed and when we have analysed recent data.

Please note that we will call for expressions of interest in all the other labs in due course.

Pool Keys

The pool will be available for public use. Hire keys are available from the school office at \$25 per family for the 2012 swimming season. Those who held their key last year in anticipation of using again this year should have received an invoice this week. Please send the money in asap. Many thanks.

Bus Safety

Parents are reminded that motor vehicles are required to reduce their speed to 20km per hour when passing a stationary bus.

Term Headlice Inspection

.. inspections today indicated low levels of infestation. If you received a letter advising of infestation please take an appropriate action before your child returns to school. All parents are asked to check their children's hair weekly please and to respond promptly in the event of infestation.

Parent Helpers

If you would like to help in rooms and did not return your notice of availability before the due date **we would still love to have you on board**. We suggest that you connect with your child's teacher to discuss suitable days and times. A final reminder that all parent helpers are asked to read a copy of the Parent Helpers' Guidelines available from the school office.

Guitar Lessons

There are a number of vacancies in this popular after school programme (Wednesday & Thursday in the Old School Room - by the upper car park). Cost \$20 per lesson. Vangie has a spare guitar for kids trying out. If interested please phone Vangie on 434 7573 or 021 1883251, or email killalea@ihug.co.nz

2nd Hand/Outgrown Clothing

If any parents of Year 3 and under have any secondhand or outgrown boy's shorts that you would be happy to donate to the Junior School it would be most appreciated. Please drop into the office or see Mrs Marvin in Room 3.

If interested ...

.. in yoga classes in our school hall for as little as \$5.00 a lesson on a Wednesday after school please give Susan Pryor a call on 094339578 or 0212084167 (this is a much reduced rate and Susan is well qualified for this role). There is some interest already but numbers need to lift somewhat for this to be viable. Susan is more than happy to answer any questions.

Newsletter .. a reminder to let Helen know if you would like to receive your newsletter by email.

Finally

In term 4 of each year staff analyse achievement information and identify specific areas of (relative) underperformance which might become the subject of focus in the following year. We also identify areas for whole school development which we think might further improve our programmes. As advised in earlier newsletters 2013 will see a special focus on growing number knowledge, promotion of reading mileage, supporting writers to identify their next steps and designing programmes which engage and extend learners. If you are interested in hearing more about our 2013 focus areas **you are invited to meet Kevin at 3:15 Thursday 28 February in his office** ... we will relocate if we don't have enough space. You are also welcome to drop by for a chat on your way to and from conferences earlier in the week. Hopefully I will get to connect with some of you.

Regards
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

FOR SALE: 2 pairs childrens polycotton zip front overalls, colour blue. 1 x size 10; 1 x size 12. Excellent Condition. \$20 per pair. Ph Brenda 021 113 0593.

Firewood for Sale –Approx 1.2m³ of gum \$90/load. Delivery by arrangement. Fundraiser for competitive student cyclist. Ph Jeremy or Kevin 4355336.

Kamo Junior Rugby is holding its Rally day on Thursday Feb 28th at the Kamo Clubrooms, Butler Place, Kamo.JBN to JB3 from 5.00 to 6.30 pm (5 to 9 years old) JB4 to JB8 from 6.30 to 8.00 pm (9 to 15 years old), Coaches& Managers Welcome. Any question please phone or Txt Murray Mortimer on 029 7525970.

Comrie Park Tennis Club - The Matarau Tennis Club would like to remind you that we have some fabulous courts available for a very small annual key fee of \$75.00. Club Night is held on Monday evening's from 5.30pm. If you would like to know more about club night or express an interest please contact Sean Parker by email: seanparker.nz@gmail.com If you're interested in becoming a member please contact Robyn McKegg by mail: russrob@xtra.co.nz or phone 4335 501.

Flatmate Wanted – 1 room to rent in Hikurangi \$80 per wk (negotiable) + power. You can have the use of the garage too. I'm a nightshift person, so I'll see you in the weekends. You'll have to cook for yourself. Phone Glenis 0220337812.